been set up by 23 State Governments/Union Territories to oversee the implementation of the provision of the Act.

Equal Remuneration Act

2125. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation regarding withdrawing notification issued under the Equal Remuneration Act which provide different working conditions for air hostesses and flight pursers of Air India;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the representation; and

(c) steps taken by Government to withdraw the notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The Air India Hostesses Association has filed a complaint before the controlling authority Assistant Labour Commissioner (C) under Section 7 of the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 on 2nd May, 1990. In the said complaint they have requested the competent authority to give directions to Air India to (1) allow them to fly up to 58 years; (2) abolish medical examination; (3) abolish all forms of disparity in promotional avenues; (4) common line of promotion; (5) equal status on Board.

Conditions of Tea Garden Workers

2126. SHRI DRUPAD BARGOHAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what policy his Ministry has adopted to enforce the law as regards the low paid, underfed, unhealthy tea garden workers in different tea producing States of India; and

(b) whether his Ministry has taken action to force the owners of tea gardens to provide all the amenities as per law?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 seeks to regulate the conditions of plantation labour generally. It applies in the first instance to tea,

coffee, rubber and cinchona plantations and the State Government may apply it to any other plantation. The State Governments enforce the provisions contained in the Act. Based on the suggestions made by the social partners which include representatives of employers, Trade Union and the State Governments, the Ministry only formulates amendment proposals to the Plantation Labour Act.

(b) The provisions of the Act are implemented by the State Governments.

Revision of income parameters and ceilings in the payment of bonus Act, 1965

2127. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been an inordinate delay in revising the income parameters and ceilings in the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965;

(b) what is the number/proportion of the organised sector workers who have been outside the purview of the Bonus Act, on account of no revision of the income ceilings; and

(c) when Government intend to bring an amendment Bill in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Government reviews the matter regarding revision of bonus ceilings from time to time. The last amendment, raising the eligibility limit from Rs. 2500/- p.m. to Rs. 3500/- p.m. calculation ceiling from Rs. 1600/- p.m. to Rs. 2500/- p.m. was done in the year 1995.

(b) No specific information regarding the number of employees who have been outside the purview of the Bonus Act, on account of no revision of the income ceilings is centrally maintained because the coverage under the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 is very vast and the Act* is mainly administered by the State Governments.

(c) The Government is seized of the matter regarding revision of bonus ceilings by way of an amendment in the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.